SLAIN RECTOR'S WATCHCASE STOLEN FROM BODY, SENT BY MAIL TO STATE

Finder Removed Works, Sender Wrote to Police

By JACK MILEY
GRAPHIC Staff Correspondent

SOMERVILLE, N. J., Oct. 7.—Recovered after a four year search, a monogrammed gold watchcase, which may prove part of the timepiece stolen from the body of the Rev. Edward W. Hall the night he was slain, is in the hands of Inspector John J. Underwood today. The case, battered and worn until its three script initials are faintly decipherable, was mailed here from a branch post office in New York.

Inspector Underwood declines to comment upon its value to Prosecutor Simpson's investigation until he has examined the watchcase more thoroughly.

Works Removed

In the package which contained the case was this penciled note, written in a stilted feminene hand:—

"This watch was picked up where Mrs. Gibson's mule was standing. The man who found it removed the works. This may bring out a clue. E. T. H., Newark."

While the engraved scroll on the case bears evidence of tampering, the initials themselves resemble "E. W. H.," or any combination of those letters. Inside the case is the serial number "13662" and a maker's stamp, "warranted 25 years."

To Trace Watch Sale

It is believed Inspector Underwood will dispatch detectives to New Brunswick to interview jewelers in an attempt to identify the purchaser of the watch.

Another theory attached to the arrival of the watchcase is that if the article did not belong to the slain rector it may have been dropped by a member of the party who visited De Russeys Lane on the eventful night of September 14, 1922.

Detectives are also interested in finding the anonymous sender of the case. Through "E. T. H." it is believed additional light may be shed on the murder mystery. On the other hand, it is possible that the watchcase may be a "plant" by a Hall sympathizer, designed to throw Senator Simpson's sleuths off their track and direct suspicion upon Jane Gibson.

May Rearrest Di Martini

It was learned today that the prosecution has slight hope of securing the extradition of Felix di Martini, private detective to Mrs. Hall, when Senator Simpson appears before Gov. Smith at the Biltmore Hotel, New York, this morning. Anticipating that his extradition plea will be denied, Simpson plans to rearrest Di Martini, charging him with a specific crime in connection with the intimidation of witnesses.

Detective Capt. Harry Walsh, returning from Albany last night, reported that O. W. Potter, extradition clerk there, had indicated his opposition to Di Martini's extradition to New Jersey until an indictment has been returned by the Somerset county grand jury.

No New Indictments

Supreme Court Justice Charles W. Parker, when the grand jury meets today, will not preside to charge that body upon what constitutes an accessory to murder, as Simpson had asked in open court last Saturday, nor will Prosecutor Simpson, as had been expected, ask

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Says Vamp Stole Her Husband

MRS. FRIEDA HERRMAN, above, with daughter, Mary, has filed suit for $100,000 in Supreme Court against Vera Sher, pretty divorcee, who she says stole her husband away. Mrs. Herrman alleged her husband received letters signed Vera, saying, "Love and kisses from your own Vera." After asking Vera to "lay off my husband," Mrs. Herrman says she brought suit.

Greater New York To Celebrate Apple Week

The king of fruits—the apple—will hold court in New York from October 30 to November 6. That is officially "Apple Week." It is estimated that the commercial crop in this vicinity this year will be in excess of 9,000,000 barrels.

The United States Department of Agriculture estimates per capita consumption of apples to be three a week, but the New York City Apple Week Committee of the International Shippers' Association, of 204 Franklin St., of which Joseph Sicker is chairman, believes that it ought to be at least an apple a day.

Brave Cop Wins Bride Who Nursed Him to Health

Only the brave deserve the fair!

It was April 28. On traffic duty at the corner of Chambers and Centre Streets stood Policeman Roy Burgie directing vehicles with a firm hand—and a smile.

Through the throng came a madman with a gleaming knife. He slashed and cut Arthur Davis. Snarling, the maniac turned to strike again, when Policeman Burgie pounced upon him. With superhuman strength the crazed man

Policeman Roy Burgie

Miss M. Roche

fought. He stabbed the brave policeman, as was shown by the trickles of blood that came through his pierced uniform. But he had him subdued just as Traffic Officer L. Smith, his brother policeman, came dashing to his aid.

Burgie was in the hospital three weeks. And the first to reach him was Miss Marian V. Roche of 607 47th St., Brooklyn.

"No," she told hospital attendants, "I'm not a relative and we're not engaged. I'm just a friend, but I insist on nursing him back to full health." And she never left his bedside until they walked out arm in arm. Cupid had been busy in the meantime.

On Sunday afternoon, at 4 o'clock, they will be married at St. Agatha's Church in Bay Ridge, and Burgie's brother officers of Traffic A will attend in a body. They will make their home in Bay Ridge.

And, of course, Traffic Officer Smith will be the best man.

Mrs. Hall Finds Comfort In Reading Bible Daily

By LEO J. CASEY
GRAPHIC Staff Correspondent

NEW BRUNSWICK, N. J., Oct. 7.—From behind the barrier of austerity and reserve which for four years has kept from the public any intimate knowledge of Mrs. Frances Stevens Hall, there has at last seeped out pathetic [illegible] of the story of a woman who wishes she had no story to tell.

Mrs. Hall, far from seeking to forget the man for whose murder she is now indicted, goes out of her way daily to keep his memory fresh. In her bedroom, hidden away where no one else may see, is a Bible which the widow of the slain clergyman reads twice a day, in the morning immediately after arising and in the evening at 10 o'clock, or as near that hour as possible.

Mrs. Hall

Rector's Photo a Bookmark

In this holy volume is a bookmark more precious to the widow than the book itself, a worn snapshot of her husband.

There is really no need of the marker. Through much turning from day to day, the book opens always to a certain page—a page upon which tears have fallen. And there, in that part of the Bible which tells more than any other of the loyalty of love, is the passage which for Frances Hall is the requiem for the man who was unfaithful to her.

Ruth's Loyalty a Comfort

It is the book of Ruth, chapter I., verses 16 and 17.

16. And Ruth said, Entreat me not to leave thee, or to return from following after thee, for whither thou goest I will go, and where thou lodgest I will lodge; thy people shall be my people, and thy God my God.

17. Where thou diest, will I die, and there will I be buried; the Lord do so to me, and more also, if ought but death part thee and me.

Widow's Faith Firm

Mrs. Hall's loyalty to her husband as evidenced in these daily acts was learned from one of the very few intimates of the indicted woman. This friend, of course, declares Mrs. Hall to be innocent of the crime for which she goes on trial November 3, but admitted to this correspondent that the endurance of the widow's love does not prove her guiltless.

There have been women before who killed, not because their love had faded, but because of its very strength, and afterwards when the object of their love—and momentary hate—was gone, love alone, the old love greatly intensified, remained.

Mrs. Hall Deeply Religious

Probably that is the case with Frances Stevens Hall. Few there are who know, if any, and those few probably will never tell. Frances Hall is a deeply religious woman. She told the Rev. J. Mervin Pettit, her pastor and her husband's successor, that one of her greatest sufferings since her arrest on July 28 was her inability to take communion last Sunday.

Mrs. Hall has not attended church services since the revived investigation got under way, but until last Sunday Dr. Pettit has administered the sacrament to her in her home. Duties to other members of his congregation prevented him from visiting the widow's home last Sunday.

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